

Cultural Treasures
goes mobile

See page 20



September/October 2012

Montana - The Land of Creativity

Providing information to all Montanans through funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Montana

A BOOKISH SEASON

Montana Festival of the Book

The 13th annual Humanities Montana Festival of the Book celebrates the literature of the West Oct. 4-6 in downtown Missoula.

More than 70 authors participate in readings, panels, exhibits, demonstrations, signings, workshops, entertainments, receptions and other special events. Most are free and open to the public. Venues include the Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park, the Wilma Theatre, the Missoula Public Library and the Missoula Art Museum.

The Festival of the Book is one of the biggest cultural events in the Northwest. This year, in addition to the festival's literary events, Humanities Montana showcases music and literature, including a joint venture between author Rick Bass and indie band Stellarondo, a presentation by Colin Meloy (of Decemberists fame) and Carson Ellis about their award-winning *Wildwood Chronicles* for young adults, and a new-music song cycle by Wayne Horvitz based on James Welch's novel *Heart Song of Charging Elk*.

The 2012 festival also features a gala reading with award-winning authors Ivan Doig, Pam Houston and Patrick deWitt. As in years past, the Montana Festival of the Book features some of the most important voices of the West, including award-winning authors Kim Barnes, Jess Walter, David Abrams, Jonathan Evison and many more.

The festival schedule is available at www.humanitiesmontana.org/programs/fob in late August.

High Plains BookFest

Thirty authors from 11 states gather in Billings Oct. 19-20 for the High Plains BookFest and Book Awards.

The festival kicks off Friday with three presentations on the theme "My Home's in Montana," noon-5 p.m. at the Western Heritage Center, followed by an opening reception for the Book Award finalists and a public reading.

On Saturday, the Yellowstone Art Museum hosts readings from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., followed by the High Plains Book Awards banquet at 6 p.m. (for tickets call Connie Dillon at 406-256-0625). Montana author Thomas McGuane will receive this year's Emeritus Honor.

For more on the festival and awards, see page 22 or visit www.highplainsbookawards.org.

October is Arts and Humanities Month

Lt. Governor John Bohlinger invites all Montanans to celebrate October and Arts and Humanities Month.

An exhibit of artwork and poetry from *Signatures from Big Sky*, a publication of student writing and artwork from across Montana, as well as Helena-area students' art will be featured in the Capitol Rotunda during the month of October.



Governor reappoints three to council

Gov. Brian Schweitzer recently reappointed three members to the Montana Arts Council (MAC). Cyndy Andrus of Bozeman, Judy Ulrich of Dillon and Jane Waggoner Deschner of Billings will serve five-year terms that end in 2017.

MAC Executive Director Arni Fishbaugh said these three individuals have been enormously helpful in advancing the work of the agency and their leadership will continue to be of major assistance.

Cyndy Andrus, Bozeman: A self-employed tourism consultant, Andrus works with rural Montana communities to implement and promote the Montana tourism brand and to assist communities in developing their tourism product. She is the former director of the Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB), where she was the administrator of the Bozeman accommodation tax and worked with Travel Montana, other CVBs and tourism regions to promote Bozeman as a destination for tourism, film and meetings and conventions. She has been employed in the tourism industry for over 25 years.

Andrus is an active member of her community, serving as a Bozeman City Commissioner, vice chair of the Montana Tourism Advisory Council, and member of the Region 3 Fish, Wildlife and Parks Citizen Advisory Council. She co-founded the Bozeman Community Cultural Council, is past president of Yellowstone Country



Cyndy Andrus



Judy Ulrich

Tourism region, served on the PPL Montana Community Fund Board and is a graduate of the 2007 class of Leadership Montana.

She also serves on the Montana Heritage Commission and is a member of the Montana Ambassadors. She was appointed to the Montana Arts Council in 2004 by Gov. Martz and was recently reappointed by Gov. Schweitzer for a third term. She currently serves as vice chair of the arts council.



Jane Waggoner Deschner

See MAC reappointees on page 8

National study shows arts "contribute mightily" to Missoula economy

The nonprofit arts and culture industry generates \$39.89 million in annual economic activity in Missoula, supporting 1,447 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$3.29 million in local and state government revenues, according to the *Arts & Economic Prosperity IV* national economic impact study.

Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education, conducted the study, which is considered the most comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry ever carried out in the United States.

According to the study, nonprofit arts and culture organizations spent \$13.6 million during fiscal year 2010. This spending is far-reaching: organizations pay employees, purchase supplies, contract for services and acquire assets within their community. Those dollars, in turn, generated \$12.1 million in household income for local residents and \$1 million in local and state government revenues.

"This study clearly shows what the arts and cultural community have known for years: that the arts industry in Missoula contributes mightily to the local economy, while helping to make Missoula an attractive place in which to live and work," said Tom Bensen, executive director of the Missoula Cultural Council.

Nationally, the *Arts & Economic Prosperity IV* study reveals that the nonprofit arts industry produced \$135.2 billion in economic activity during 2010. This spending – \$61.1 billion by nonprofit arts and culture organizations, plus an additional \$74.1 billion by their audiences – supported 4.1 million full-time equivalent jobs and gen-



A juried fine art show is among the offerings at the River City Roots Festival – one of Missoula's many cultural events.

erated \$22.3 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues.

"This study shines a much-needed light on the vital role the arts play in stimulating and sustaining economic development," says Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "Contrary to popular belief, the arts are a bustling industry that supports a plethora of diverse jobs, generates significant revenues for local businesses and

to federal, state and local governments and provides quality of life that positions communities to compete in our 21st century creative economy."

See National Study on page 8

Did you know that MAC is on Facebook?

"Like" us for weekly updates about Montana Arts Council activities and opportunities, as well as information about arts events and organizations across the state.

And watch for our upcoming Artist of the Week feature: Coming soon at www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287

